
A REVIEW ON PRESENT STATUS, CHALLENGES, AND PROSPECT OF APICULTURE IN BANGLADESH

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ABSTRACT

Compacted information on Apiculture cultivation concerning present status, benefits, challenges, problems, prospects, and production is very important for developing this sector. So, the review paper aims to compile information on apiculture cultivation in Bangladesh. Apiculture production is increasing due to the high demand for honey and increasing crop pollination. Giant honey bee (*Apis dorsata*), little honeybee (*A. florae*), Asian honey bee (*A. cerana*), and Western honey bee (*A. mellifera*) are the most preferable species and cultivated by the farmers, but the maximum cultivation is confined to *A. mellifera*. Mostly young aged educated people are adopting apiculture farming as the commercial basis in Bangladesh. Apiculture production is easy to work because it requires only a little technical efficiency and a highly profitable agribusiness as evident for its profitable benefit-cost ratio (BCR 1.59-3.70). Although apiculture increased agriculture production, some problems are confronted by the apiculture growers during cultivation and marketing including lack of cultivation house, unavailability of good spawn, capital shortage, lack of equipment's, lack of available market and promotion at the local level, lack of storage facilities, etc. which are needed to be addressed for further development of this sector. It will be a great source of employment creation for the rural poor people to reduce the poverty. Inhabitants of honey bees were moderately decreased due to unsuitable use of pesticides/herbicides, deforestation, water contamination, and bush burning. Therefore, the application of chemical pesticides during the flowering period should be avoided. Chemical pesticides should also be substituted with bio-rational, plant derivative products and microbial pesticides to minimize the toxicity of chemicals to pollinators.

Keywords: Apiculture, chemical pesticides, crop yield, honey bee, pollination

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